

College-Level Learning Assessment Program

What is the College-Level Learning Assessment Program?

The College-Level Learning Assessment Program is designed to help Kentucky's postsecondary institutions, the Council on Postsecondary Education, and other policy leaders assess and monitor college student learning and compare Kentucky's performance with other states. It fulfills the learning grade requirement of the National Center for Public Policy in Higher Education's *Measuring Up 2008*, the national report card for postsecondary education.

Why is a program like this needed?

Report card grades were developed expressly to allow states to evaluate their performance in higher education. *Measuring Up's* learning grade is the leading state-level indicator of college student learning. Full implementation of the 2005-2010 public agenda for postsecondary and adult education would require participation in a state-level assessment of college-level learning.

How does the program work?

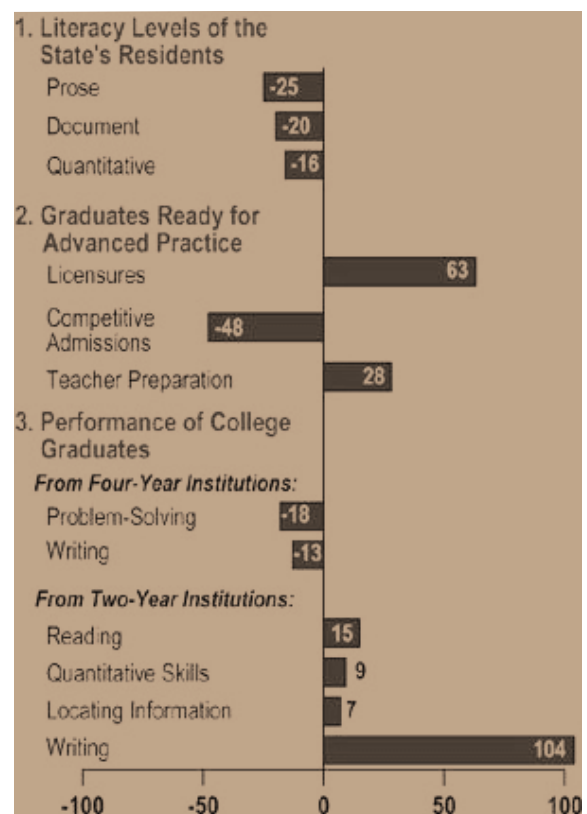
Participation requires statewide student level testing and national standardized test score data collection. During fall semester 2007, a sample of college seniors from Kentucky's postsecondary institutions will be asked to complete either the Collegiate Learning Assessment (for four-year degree students) or the ACT Work Keys assessment instrument (for two-year degree students). The funding request includes provisions for logistics support, student incentives for participating in the intensive testing required, follow-up analysis, and the development of strategies for improving student-level learning.

What is the Council's request?

The Council seeks \$1 million of recurring funds in FY 2007-08 to cover program costs.

Why is the additional funding needed?

Kentucky participated in two rounds of pilot projects (in 2002 and again in 2004) to develop the methodology for assigning a standardized grade to college graduate learning. The 2004 pilot project was considered a success and the authors noted the project "had demonstrated that college-level learning could be assessed in a way that makes interstate comparison possible." The additional funding will allow Kentucky to continue to participate in this important study.



Source: Kentucky: Learning
Percent Above or Below National Average
Measuring Up 2004

One Mission: Better Lives for Kentucky's People